Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0032
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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UTILITY PATENT APPLICATION **TRANSMITTAL**

| Attorney Docket No. | 26937 00026 |
|------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| First Inventor | Ralph VanSkiver |
| Title | Latch Mechanism for Hooded Litter Pan |
| Everage Mail Label No. | EV344156322US |

(Only for new nonprovisional applications under 37 CFR 1.53(b))

| (Only for new nonprovisional applications under 37 CFR 1.53(b)) | Express Mail Label No. EV344156322US | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| APPLICATION ELEMENTS See MPEP chapter 600 concerning utility patent application contents. | ADDRESS TO: Mail Stop Patent Application Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria VA 22313-1450 | | |
| 1. X Fee Transmittal Form (e.g., PTO/SB/17) (Submit an original and a duplicate for fee processing) Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27. 3. X Specification [Total Pages 10] (preferred arrangement set forth below) - Descriptive title of the invention - Cross Reference to Related Applications - Statement Regarding Fed sponsored R & D - Reference to sequence listing, a table, or a computer program listing appendix - Background of the Invention - Brief Summary of the Invention - Brief Description of the Drawings (if filed) - Detailed Description - Claim(s) - Abstract of the Disclosure 4. X Drawing(s) (35 U.S.C. 113) [Total Sheets 7] 5. Oath or Declaration [Total Sheets 7] a. X Newly executed (original or copy) b. Copy from a prior application (37 CFR 1.63(d)) (for continuation/divisional with Box 18 completed) i. DELETION OF INVENTOR(S) Signed statement attached deleting inventor(s) name in the prior application, see 37 CFR 1.63(d)(2) and 1.33(b). 6. Application Data Sheet. See 37 CFR 1.76 | 7. CD-ROM or CD-R in duplicate, large table or Computer Program (Appendix) 8. Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Submission (if applicable, all necessary) a. Computer Readable Form (CRF) b. Specification Sequence Listing on: i. CD-ROM or CD-R (2 copies); or ii. Paper c. Statements verifying identity of above copies ACCOMPANYING APPLICATION PARTS 9. Assignment Papers (cover sheet & document(s)) 10. 37 CFR 3.73(b) Statement Power of (when there is an assignee) Attorney 11. English Translation Document (if applicable) 12. Information Disclosure Copies of IDS Statement (IDS)/PTO-1449 Citations 13. Preliminary Amendment 14. Return Receipt Postcard (MPEP 503) (Should be specifically itemized) 15. Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) (if foreign priority is claimed) 16. Nonpublication Request under 35 U.S.C. 122 (b)(2)(B)(i). Applicant must attach form PTO/SB/35 or its equivalent. 17. Other: Power. of Attorney. | | |
| specification following the title, or in an Application Data Sheet under 3. Continuation Divisional Continua | ation-in-part (CIP) of prior application No.: | | |
| Prior application information: Examiner | | | |
| | IDENCE ADDRESS | | |
| X Customer Number: 20873 | OR Correspondence address below | | |
| Name | | | |
| Address | | | |
| City | State Zip Code | | |
| | elephone Fax | | |
| | Registration No. (Attorney/Agent) 28 317 | | |
| Name (Print/Type) Martin Korn | Registration No. (Attorney/Agent) 28,317 | | |

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.53(b). The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

PTO/SB/17 (10-03)
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Telephone 214-740 8549

Date

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FEE TRANSMITTAL for FY 2004

Effective 10/01/2003. Patent fees are subject to annual revision.

Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27

Martin Korn

Name (Print/Type)

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT (\$) 810.00

| Complete if Known | | |
|----------------------|-----------------|--|
| Application Number | | |
| Filing Date | | |
| First Named Inventor | Ralph VanSkiver | |
| Examiner Name | | |
| Art Unit | | |
| Attorney Docket No. | 26937 00026 | |

| METHOD OF PAYMENT (check all that apply) | FEE CALCULATION (continued) | | | | | |
|--|-----------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--|----------|
| | | | | L FEE | | |
| X Deposit Account: | | | | Entity | ! | |
| Denosit | Fee Code | Fee (\$) | Fee Code | Fee (\$) | Fee Description | Fee Paid |
| Account 12-1781 | 1051 | 130 | 2051 | 65 | Surcharge - late filing fee or oath | |
| Deposit Account | 1052 | 50 | 2052 | 25 | Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet | |
| Name The Director is authorized to: (check all that apply) | 1053 | 130 | 1053 | 130 | Non-English specification | |
| Charge fee(s) indicated below X Credit any overpayments | 1812 | 2,520 | 1812 | 2,520 | For filing a request for ex parte reexamination | |
| Charge any additional fee(s) or any underpayment of fee(s) | 1804 | 920* | 1804 | 920* | Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action | |
| Charge fee(s) indicated below, except for the filing fee | 1805 | 1,840* | 1805 | 1,840* | Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action | |
| to the above-identified deposit account. | 1251 | 110 | 2251 | 55 | Extension for reply within first month | |
| FEE CALCULATION 1. BASIC FILING FEE | 1252 | 420 | 2252 | 210 | Extension for reply within second month | |
| Large Entity Small Entity | 1253 | 950 | 2253 | 475 | Extension for reply within third month | |
| Fee Fee Fee Fee Description Fee Paid | 1254 | 1,480 | 2254 | 740 | Extension for reply within fourth month | |
| Code (\$) Code (\$) 1001 770 2001 385 Utility filing fee 770 001 | 1255 | 2,010 | 2255 | 1,005 | Extension for reply within fifth month | |
| 1002 340 2002 170 Design filing fee 770.00 | 1401 | 330 | 2401 | 165 | Notice of Appeal | |
| 1003 530 2003 265 Plant filing fee | 1402 | 330 | 2402 | 165 | Filing brief in support of an appeal | |
| 1004 770 2004 385 Reissue filing fee | 1403 | 290 | 2403 | 145 | Request for oral hearing | |
| 1005 160 2005 80 Provisional filing fee | 1451 | 1,510 | 1451 | 1,510 | Petition to institute a public use proceeding | |
| SUBTOTAL (1) (\$) 770.00 | 1452 | 110 | 2452 | 55 | Petition to revive - unavoidable | |
| 2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES FOR UTILITY AND REISSUE | 1453 | 1,330 | 2453 | 665 | Petition to revive - unintentional | |
| Fee from | | 1,330 | 2501 | 665 | Utility issue fee (or reissue) | |
| Extra Claims below Fee Paid Total Claims 9 -20** = 0 X = 0 | 1502 | 480 | 2502 | | Design issue fee | |
| Independent 2 3** 0 v | 1503 | 640 | 2503 | | Plant issue fee | |
| Claims 2 -3 - 0 ^ 1 - 0 1 Multiple Dependent | 1460 | 130 | 1460 | | Petitions to the Commissioner | |
| Large Entity Small Entity | 1807 | 50 | 1807 | | Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17(q) | |
| Fee Fee Fee Fee Description | 1806 | 180 | 1806 | 180 | Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt | |
| Code (\$) Code (\$) | 8021 | 40 | 8021 | 40 | Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties) | 40.00 |
| 1202 | 1809 | 770 | 2809 | 385 | Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR 1.129(a)) | |
| 1203 290 2203 145 Multiple dependent claim, if not paid | 1810 | 770 | 2810 | 385 | For each additional invention to be | |
| 1204 86 2204 43 ** Reissue independent claims over original patent | 1801 | 770 | 2801 | 385 | examined (37 CFR 1.129(b)) Request for Continued Examination (RCE) | |
| 1205 18 2205 9 ** Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent | 1802 | 900 | 1802 | | Request for expedited examination of a design application | |
| Othe | | | ecify)_ | | | |
| SURTOTAL (2) 1(%) U.UUH | | | | Filing F | Fee Paid SUBTOTAL (3) (\$) | 40.00 |
| SUBMITTED BY | | | _ | | (Complete (if applicable) | |

Signature WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

on

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.17 and 1.27. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Ú.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Registration No.

(Attorney/Agent)

28,317

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| NONPUBLICATION REQUEST |
|---------------------------|
| UNDER |
| 35 U.S.C. 122(b)(2)(B)(i) |

| First | Named Inventor | Ralph VanSkiver | |
|--------|-----------------|----------------------------|--|
| Title | Latch Mecha | nism for Hooded Litter Pan | |
| Attorr | ney Docket Numb | per 26937 00026 | |

I hereby certify that the invention disclosed in the attached application has not and will not be the subject of an application filed in another country, or under a multilateral agreement, that requires publication at eighteen months after filing.

I hereby request that the attached application not be published under 35 U.S.C. 122(b).

| 3/16/04 | Slarti Kon |
|------------------|-----------------------|
| Date | Signature |
| | |
| (214) 740-8549 | Martin Korn |
| Telephone number | Typed or printed name |

This request must be signed in compliance with 37 CFR 1.33(b) and submitted with the application upon filing.

Applicant may rescind this nonpublication request at any time. If applicant rescinds a request that an application not be published under 35 U.S.C. 122(b), the application will be scheduled for publication at eighteen months from the earliest claimed filing date for which a benefit is claimed.

If applicant subsequently files an application directed to the invention disclosed in the attached application in another country, or under a multilateral international agreement, that requires publication of applications eighteen months after filing, the applicant **must** notify the United States Patent and Trademark Office of such filing within forty-five (45) days after the date of the filing of such foreign or international application. **Failure to do so will result in abandonment of this application (35 U.S.C. 122(b)(2)(B)(iii)).**

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.213(a). The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 6 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.